Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for treating a ~~an air~~ filter for a gaseous medium, comprising:

preparing a dielectric liquid formulation which is non-ionizing in aqueous solutions,

applying the ~~a water-soluble, metal-free dielectric liquid~~ formulation onto the ~~air~~ filter,

whereby the filter is provided with passive electrostatic properties.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the liquid formulation is ~~selected to be~~ nonflammable and non-combustible.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the formulation further ~~includes~~ comprises at least a dielectric biocide material.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises a non-ionic surfactant.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the non-ionic surfactant comprises ~~is~~ an alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer.

6. (original) The method claim 5, wherein the alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer is alkylphenol-hydroxy (xyethylene)$_{35,45}$ or $_{100}$.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of mono or polyhydric alcohols, mono or polyethers, and mono or polyketone compounds.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the polyhydric alcohol is one of propylene glycol and glycerin.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one [[~~a~~]] non-ionic biocide material is added to the formulation.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises a non-ionic surfactant dissolved in a non-flammable, non-combustible solvent.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the formulation is non-flammable and non-combustible.

12. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the non-ionic surfactant is an alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer is alkylphenol-hydroxy (xyethylene) $_{35,45,}$ or $_{100}$.

14. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the formulation ~~is selected from the group consisting of~~ comprises mono- or polyhydric alcohols, mono- or polyethers, or mono or polyketone compounds dissolved in a non-flammable solvent that leaves no conducting residue on the filter.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises glycerin or propylene glycol dissolved in a non-flammable solvent that leaves no conducting residue on the filter

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises a non-ionic surfactant dissolved in the non-flammable solvent that leaves no conducting residue on the filter.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the non-ionic surfactant is alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer.

18. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer is alkylphenol-hydroxy (xyethylene)$_{35,45}$ or $_{100}$.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of mono or polyhydric alcohols, mono or polyethers, or mono or polyketone compounds dissolved in the non-flammable solvent that leaves no conducting residue on the filter.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the formulation ~~is of~~ comprises glycerin or propylene glycol dissolved in the non-flammable solvent that leaves no conducting residue on the filter.

21. (currently amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises a non-ionic surfactant.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein the non-ionic surfactant is alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein the alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer is alkylphenol-hydroxy(xyethylene) $_{35,45}$ or $_{100}$.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the formulation ~~is~~ comprises a compound selected ~~form~~ from the group consisting of mono or polyhydric alcohol, mono or poly ether, and mono or polyketone compounds.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the polyhydric alcohol is propylene glycol or glycerin.

26. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the non-ionic biocide is a polychlorophenoxyphenol.

27. (original) The method of claim 26, wherein the polychloro-phenoxyphenol is one of 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-l-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)urea and 2,4,4'-trichloro-2'-hydroxydiphenyl.

28. (currently amended) A formulation, which is non-ionizing in aqueous solutions, for improving filter performance, comprising an organic, non-ionic, water-soluble ~~dielectric~~ component and an organic, non-ionic, water-soluble biocide component applicable onto a filter.

29. (original) The formulation of claim 28, wherein the water-soluble dielectric component is glycerin dissolved in deionized water.

30. (previously presented) The formulation of claim 28, wherein the dielectric component is propylene glycol dissolved in deionized water.

31. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 28, wherein the components are selected so as to be ~~are~~ non-flammable and non-combustible.

32. (original) The formulation of claim 28, wherein the water-soluble dielectric component is a non-ionic surfactant.

33. (original) The formulation of claim 32, wherein the non-ionic surfactant is an alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer.

34. (original) The formulation of claim 33, wherein the alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer is alkylphenol-hydroxy (xyethylene)$_{35,45}$ or $_{100}$.

35. (previously presented) The formulation of claim 28, wherein the water-soluble dielectric component is selected from the group consisting of mono or polyhydric alcohols, mono or polyethers, and mono or polyketone compounds.

36. (original) The formulation of claim 35, wherein the polyhydric alcohol is one of propylene glycol and glycerin.

37. (currently amended) A ~~liquid~~ formulation, which is non-ionizing in aqueous solutions, for treating a filter, ~~consisting essentially of~~ comprising a water-soluble, organic, non-ionic, dielectric compound ~~component; optionally, deionized water; and optionally, one or more additional organic components~~, wherein the ~~components are~~ compound is selected so that, upon applying the formulation to the filter, passive electrostatic properties are ~~impartable~~ imparted to the filter.

38. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the compounds ~~components of the formulation~~ are selected so that the formulation is non-flammable and non-combustible.

39. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the organic dielectric ~~component~~ compound is a non-ionic surfactant.

40. (original) The formulation of claim 39, wherein the non-ionic surfactant is an alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer.

41. (original) The formulation of claim 40, wherein the alkylphenol-hydroxypolyoxyethylene polymer is alkylphenol-hydroxy (xyethylene)$_{35,45}$ or $_{100}$.

42. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the organic dielectric compound ~~component~~ is selected from the group consisting of mono or polyhydric alcohols, mono or polyethers, and mono or polyketone compounds.

43. (original) The formulation of claim 42, wherein the polyhydric alcohol is one of propylene glycol and glycerin.

44. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the formulation contains at least one [[a]] non-ionic biocide material.

45. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the organic dielectric compound ~~component~~ is a non-ionic surfactant, and wherein the non-ionic surfactant is dissolved in deionized water or an organic, non-flammable, non-combustible solvent that leaves no conducting residue on the filter.

46. (previously presented) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the formulation is metal free.

47. (previously presented) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the formulation consists essentially of a water-soluble organic dielectric; deionized water; and optionally, one or more additional organic components.

48. (previously presented) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the formulation consists essentially of a water-soluble organic dielectric; an organic solvent; and optionally, one or more additional organic components.

49. (currently amended) The formulation of claim 37, wherein the formulation consists essentially of at least one [[a]] water-soluble organic dielectric compound; deionized water; at least one [[a]]water-soluble organic biocide; and optionally, one or more additional organic components.

50. (previously presented) The formulation of claim 49, wherein the formulation is metal free.

51. (currently amended) A method for treating an air filter, comprising:

applying a liquid formulation onto the air filter, the liquid formulation consisting essentially of a water-soluble organic dielectric ~~component~~ which is non-ionizing in aqueous solutions; ~~an optional~~ optionally deionized water or an organic solvent component; and optionally, one or more additional organic components.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 51, wherein the formulation is metal free.

53. (currently amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the formulation consists essentially of a water-soluble organic dielectric compound; at least one of deionized water or organic solvent; and optionally, one or more additional organic components.

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the formulation contains deionized water.

55. (currently amended) The method of claim 51, wherein the formulation consists essentially of one [[~~a~~]] water-soluble organic dielectric compound; deionized water; one [[~~a~~]] water-soluble organic biocide; and optionally, one or more additional organic components.

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the formulation is metal free.

57. (new) A filter for a gaseous medium treated according to the method of claim 1, wherein the filter has passive electrostatic properties.